

THE
**FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS**

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: DAAV

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park is a multi-unit partnership park that preserves and commemorates the legacy of the Wright brothers and Paul Laurence Dunbar to inspire and educate future generations.

The Wright brothers, through their invention of powered flight in Dayton, Ohio, achieved perhaps the single most important advance of the 20th Century. Paul Laurence Dunbar, a childhood friend of the Wright brothers, rose from a poor childhood in Dayton to international acclaim as a writer and as an effective voice for equality and justice, contributing to a growing social consciousness and cultural identity for African Americans in the United States.

Dayton Aviation Heritage, established with a specific mission "to create partnerships among Federal, State, and local governments and the private sector..." will work with its partner organizations, including the United States Air Force, the Ohio Historical Society, Dayton History, Aviation Trail, Inc., Wright Dunbar, Inc., and the National Aviation Heritage Area, to provide leadership for the preservation and connectivity of all of the heritage assets that comprise the park and the Heritage Area, inspire the development and implementation of innovative and exciting recreational and educational opportunities, utilize Centennial Initiative Seasonal funding to ensure a safe and enjoyable visitor experience, and to assist the Heritage Area in becoming the Global Center of Aviation Heritage.

This will be accomplished by linking all levels of government and the private sector through innovative and collaborative relationships that will improve the Region's quality of life, provide a model for other parks and heritage areas, and meet the diverse needs of a changing public.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Lawrence Blake (937-225-7710)

Site: DAAV

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Working with partner organizations develop a new, more direct entry to the Huffman Prairie Flying Field at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to implement a major recommendation outlined in the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park Multi-Modal Comprehensive Transportation Plan (NPS: 2001) and the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park General Management Plan Amendment (NPS: 2007) to provide open and direct public access for the Huffman Prairie Flying Field unit of Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.

Provide a safe and secure visitor experience through the establishment of a shared law enforcement (LE) capability for three parks - Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP (DAAV), Hopewell Culture NHP (HOCU), and William Howard Taft NHS (WIHO) - located in close proximity in Southwest Ohio. DAAV and WIHO currently have no LE program and the LE program for HOCU is severely limited. This funding would establish a fully functional LE program at HOCU with the capability to support all LE requirements at DAAV and WIHO.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

☒ Rehabilitate high-priority historic buildings to good condition, and help communities to preserve their history through programs like Preserve America.

Collaborate with partner organizations to identify, preserve, and appropriately recognize significant cultural resources associated with the park and the Heritage Area through listings on the National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmark program, and World Heritage List; the completion of Special Resources Studies and Theme Studies; and utilization of the Preserve America initiative.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Set the standard of excellence in urban park landscape design and maintenance.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Complete a Cultural Landscape Inventory of applicable sites within the park and the Heritage Area.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Work with partner organizations to ensure that the stories associated with key Wright brothers cultural sites that are currently not part of the historical park are interpreted to the public.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

RECREATION

☒ Encourage collaboration among and assist park and recreation systems at every level—federal, regional, state, local—to help build an outdoor recreation network accessible to all Americans.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Work with partner organizations to utilize improved signage and wayfinding, information kiosks and alternative transportation options to better connect all of the heritage and recreational assets within the Heritage Area.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

RECREATION

☒ Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Work directly with area schools and boys and girls associations to develop and implement programming directly linking park goals and objectives with school and organization objectives.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

RECREATION

☒ Focus national, regional, and local tourism efforts to reach diverse audiences and young people and to attract visitors to lesser-known parks.

☒ Increase visitation by 25 percent at lesser-known parks through a national tourism effort aimed at helping people to discover the breadth of parks and experiences.

Collaborate with the National Aviation Heritage Area and area Convention and Visitors Bureaus for a national and international effort, including both attendance at national and international events to market and promote both the park and the Heritage Area.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ Increase the number of visitors that attend ranger-facilitated programs such as campfire talks, hikes, and school programs.

Expand existing and develop new partnerships with area and Regional educational institutions and organizations to expand the number of visitors attending park programs.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

EDUCATION

☒ Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

☒ Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

Develop a new and revised park website that effectively links with related sites within the Heritage Area.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Explore with partner organizations the development and use of new technologies (IPOD's) to bring our messages forward to new audiences.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: DAAV

EDUCATION

☒ Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.

☒ Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.

Host annually a naturalization ceremony within the park.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS